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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE :

Fluorite Ore Processing Plant, Proboštov - Bohosudov

1. The construction of the ore processing plant<sup>1</sup> (tridírna rudy) between Proboštov (N51/F34) and Bohosudov (N51/F34) is progressing very quickly. At the beginning of November source counted 11 one to three-storied buildings in various stages of completion at the construction site. Two of the buildings were connected by an elevated "V"-shaped wooden tunnel. A railroad siding, connecting the plant with the railroad line Teplice (N51/F34) - Usti nad Labem (N51/F44) has already been completed. A new road connection to the nearest three mines in the vicinity of Vrchoslav - Krupka (N51/F34) is being constructed. [ ] who has been working at excavations near Vrchoslav for the past twelve months told source that preliminary work at his mine is to be completed by the end of this year and that the actual mining of fluorite is to start on 1 January 1954. Excavations completed so far in this area revealed comparatively small deposits of fluorite, the average thickness of the fluorite seems being from 10 to 18 centimeters. Additional prospecting is being carried out in the vicinity of Bohosudov.

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Construction of a Hydroelectric Plant, Flaje

2. In the vicinity of Flaje (N51/F14) preparations are being made for the construction of a dam and a hydroelectric plant. In connection with this project a tunnel is being excavated near Senbach (N51/F14). Part of the labor force employed on the construction of the tunnel is composed [ ] knows personally.

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New Management for Factory Canteens

3. As of 1 January 1954 the management of the works canteens will be taken over by the Hotels and Restaurants, National Enterprise (Hotely a restaurace, narodni podnik). This will result in a considerable increase in the price of meals served in the works canteens, since the subsidy paid hitherto per head and meal by the works management will be discontinued. The whole cost of the meal will have to be paid by the customer.

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Wholesale Textile Distribution Agency

5. The Head of the Chief Administration of the Velkoobchod odevnin zbozin (wholesale textile distribution agency which was until recently known under the name Textilia) is Patouskova (fnu). The Director of the Velkoobchod odevnin zbozin (VOZ) is Winter (fnu). Director of the VOZ branch for the Usti nad Laber region is Lansdorf (fnu). The address of the VOZ Secretariat is Prague II., Vodickova 43. Local textile shops formerly known as Tep, 'National Enterprise, are now called Odevni obchod.

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Shortage of Electric Power

7. Frequent power cuts during the daytime are forcing more and more plants to resort to night work. Married women employed in these plants receive no special consideration and are forced to work night shifts. Source heard from an employee of the Terlice power station that the frequent power cuts are caused by the obsolete and poorly maintained machinery in the power plants, by low quality coal and by a constant overloading of the grid (e.g. the north Bohemian power stations take part in a long-distance power supply scheme to Hungary). Whenever a power station goes out of commission the remaining ones have to take over its customers (all the power stations are interconnected).
8. The price of a unit of electric power (Kwh) went up in Terlice from 0.23 Kcs to 0.80 Kcs. It is expected that the price of gas, at present 0.54 Kcs per one cubic meter, will also go up as of 1 January 1954.

Meat and Fats Shortages

9. The shortage of meat and especially of fats has grown worse. On 14 November source stood two hours in line for 1/2 lb of fats but went home empty-handed because the supply was sold out before his turn came. He was told that the next supply will arrive a week later. It is commonly believed that large consignments of meat, fats and other supplies are being

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shipped to Korea. Source heard from [redacted] whose sister  
lives in Ostrava (P50/059) that 50,000 metric hundredweight of meat  
were shipped recently from Ostrava to Korea.

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1. [redacted]

2. [redacted]

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3. [redacted]

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